

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/988,573

Applicant(s)

OGUSHI ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Chad Rapp

2125

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE and amendment filed on 05/24/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 31-39, 51-105 renumbered as 1-64.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 11/20/01 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/902,160.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Reasons for Allowance

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to independent claim 31, "a database system which is connected to an internet and which stores maintenance information relating to the industrial equipment, wherein the maintenance information includes both status information relating to the industrial equipment and response information which is associated with the status information and a security system that allows a limited user of the industrial equipment to access database system through the internet to derive the maintenance information for handling the problem associated with the industrial equipment", in combination with other claimed elements and features is not nor fairly taught nor fairly suggested by the prior art of record.

As to independent claim 51, "a database system which is connected to an internet and which stores maintenance information relating to the industrial equipment, wherein the maintenance information includes both status information relating to the industrial equipment and response information which is associated with the status information and allowing a second specified user, different from the first specified user, of the industrial equipment with a second security system to access the database system through the internet to derive the maintenance information, wherein the first and second security systems have different kinds of codec systems from each other" in combination with other claimed elements and features is not nor fairly taught nor fairly suggested by the prior art of record.

As to independent claim 58, providing a second database system which is connected to an internet and which stores second maintenance information relating to second industrial equipment, wherein the second maintenance information includes both status information

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relating to the second industrial equipment and second response information which is associated with the second status information and allowing a limited user of the first industrial equipment and the second industrial equipment with security systems to access the first database system and the second database system through the internet and derive the first and second maintenance information”, in combination with other claimed elements and features is not nor fairly taught nor fairly suggested by the prior art of record.

As to independent claim 66, “a database system which is connected to an internet and which stores maintenance information relating to the industrial equipment, wherein the maintenance information includes both status information relating to the industrial equipment and response information which is associated with the status information and allowing a user of the industrial equipment with a security system to access the database system through the internet to derive the maintenance information” , in combination with other claimed elements and features is not nor fairly taught nor fairly suggested by the prior art of record.

As to independent claim 94, same reasons as independent claim 31 plus instead of “industrial equipment” it narrows claim 94 by specifying “exposure apparatus”.

As to independent claim 97, same reasons as independent claim 51 plus instead of “industrial equipment” it narrows claim 97 by specifying “exposure apparatus”.

As to independent claim 100, same reasons as independent claim 58 plus instead of “industrial equipment” it narrows claim 100 by specifying “exposure apparatus”.

As to independent claim 105, same reasons as independent claim 66 plus instead of “industrial equipment” it narrows claim 105 by specifying “exposure apparatus”.

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2. Prior art of Record

Kemper et al. teaches a diagnostic center that receives and stores operating conditions(status) but Kemper does not disclose storing response information along with the operating condition at the diagnostic center. Also Kemper has no attempt to allow a limited user access to the stored values.

As with prior art of Tsuyama et al. , La et al. , Paulusamy et al. , Chen et al. , Audebert nor Fukuda et al. teach any of the limitations that Kemper et al. fails to teach.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chad Rapp whose telephone number is (703)306-4528. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 11:00-7:00.

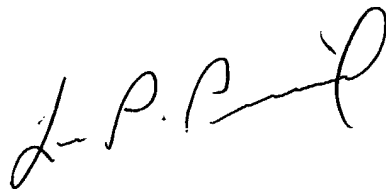
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Picard can be reached on (703)308-0538. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chad Rapp
Examiner
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cjr

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. P. Picard', with a stylized flourish at the end.

LEO PICARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Best Available Copy